

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 2, as follows:

The linear polymer(s) preferably represent(s) from 3 to 25% mass per volume (m/V) of the injectable gel-forming composition in accordance with the invention, and even more preferably from 5 to 20% mass per volume (m/V).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 3, as follows:

The degree of crosslinking of the crosslinked polymer is preferably between 0.5 and 12% mass per volume (m/V), and even more preferably between 1 and 5% mass per volume (m/V).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 7, as follows:

The crosslinked polymer(s) preferably represent(s) from 1 to 30% mass per volume (m/V) of the injectable gel-forming composition in accordance with the invention, and even more preferably from 8 to 12% mass per volume (m/V).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 2, as follows:

A solution of p(HEMA) (sold under the reference 18894-100 by the company Polysciences Inc. USA) at 12% mass per volume (m/V) in 96.2% ethanol is prepared.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 3, as follows:

Compositions of linear p(HEMA) at 12% mass per volume (m/V) in 96.2° ethanol are prepared according to the protocol described above in 1), containing or not containing 10%

(m/V) of particles consisting only of p(HEMA) crosslinked at 1, 4 or 10% mass per volume (m/V) according to the protocol described above in 2).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 17, as follows:

The viscosity of these compositions was compared with that of the solution, prepared above in 1), of p(HEMA) at 12% mass per volume (m/V) in ethanol and not containing particles of crosslinked polymer.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 12, as follows:

Various compositions of linear p(HEMA) at 12% mass per volume (m/V) in 96.2° ethanol are prepared according to the protocol described above in 1), containing 10% mass per volume (m/V) of particles consisting only of Trisacryl® crosslinked at 10% mass per volume (m/V) or 10% mass per volume (m/V) of particles consisting only of p(HEMA) crosslinked at 10% mass per volume (m/V), according to the protocol described above in 2).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 30, as follows:

By way of comparison, the behavior, during injection into water, of the solution of linear p(HEMA) at 12% mass per volume (m/V) in ethanol as prepared above in 1) is also studied.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 6, as follows:

The results obtained are as follows:

- Composition of linear p(HEMA) at 12% mass per volume (m/V) in ethanol containing 10% mass per volume (m/V) of particles of

p(HEMA) crosslinked at 10% mass per volume (m/V): the particles and the polymer have an affinity for one another, which brings about a large increase in viscosity, but the solidity of the polymer precipitate is not yet sufficient to form a matrix of polymer that traps the particles of p(HEMA) in a sufficiently solid manner to trap the particles of p(HEMA) and withstand a considerable shear. This composition in accordance with the invention is therefore more particularly intended to be used for filling pipes or cavities that are not subjected to too substantial a flow.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 28, as follows:

- Composition of linear p(HEMA) at 12% mass per volume (m/V) in ethanol containing 10% mass per volume (m/V) of particles of Trisacryl® crosslinked at 10% mass per volume (m/V): when injected into water, the particles of crosslinked p(HEMA) and the linear p(HEMA) polymer separate, the linear polymer forming relatively noncohesive filaments. The particles and the polymer that have no affinity for one another do not form a cohesive gel.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 20, as follows:

The injection into water of the solutions of these three linear copolymers (HPMA-AN, HPMA-TBA and HPMA-AAMA) at 20% mass per volume (m/V) in ethanol results in precipitates that are more cohesive than the solution of p(HEMA) not containing particles of crosslinked polymer, prepared and tested above in example 1, but that have a small volume

compared with the injected volume, due to the considerable withdrawal of the solvent that occurs during the contact with water.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 6, as follows:

Various injectable compositions in accordance with the invention are prepared, containing 10% mass per volume (m/V) of a copolymer of HPMA-TBA or of HPMA-AAMA, as prepared above in A) 1), and containing:

- 0.1, 1 or 2%, mass per volume (m/V) of particles of 50% Trisacryl® - 50% HEMA random copolymer, crosslinked at 2% mass per volume (m/V), as prepared above in example 1, paragraph 2), for the compositions based on HPMA-AAMA copolymer, and
- 5, 10 or 15% of particles of 50% Trisacryl® - 50% HEMA random copolymer, crosslinked at 2% mass per volume (m/V), as prepared above in example 1, paragraph 2), for the compositions based on HPMA-TBA copolymer.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 19, as follows:

Two comparative solutions without particles of crosslinked copolymers but containing, respectively, 10% mass per volume (m/V) of an HPMA-TBA copolymer or 10% mass per volume (m/V) of HPMA-AAPA were also prepared.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 30, as follows:

The viscosities obtained, as a function of the amount of particles contained in each of the compositions, are represented in the attached figure 1, in which the viscosity (in mPa.s) is expressed as a function of the concentration of particles mass per volume (m/V), the black squares representing the viscosity of the compositions based on HPMA-TBA copolymer and

the black diamonds representing the viscosity of the compositions based on HPMA-AAMA copolymer.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 14, as follows:

Injectable compositions containing or not containing (comparative solutions) particles of 50% Trisacryl® - 50% HEMA random copolymer, crosslinked at 2% mass per volume (m/V), as prepared above in example 1, paragraph 2), are prepared. The composition and the viscosity of the various injectable compositions and comparative solutions prepared are given in detail in table V below:

Please amend Table V at page 23 as follows:

TABLE V

Injectable compositions and solutions	Nature of the copolymer	Amount of copolymer (% m/V) <u>mass per volume</u>	Nature of the solvent	Amount of particles (% m/V) <u>mass per volume</u>	Viscosity (mPa.s)
1*	HPMA-AN	20	Ethanol	-	200
2*	HPMA-AAMA	20	Ethanol	-	Nd
3*	HPMA-AAMA	20	Ethanol	-	Nd
4*	HPMA-AAMA	20	Ethanol	-	Nd
5*	HPMA-AAMA	20	Ethanol	-	Nd
6	HPMA-AAMA	10	Ethanol	2	700
7	HPMA-AAMA	10	Ethanol	1	700
8	HPMA-AAMA	10	NMP	1	Nd
9	HPMA-AAMA	10	NMP	3	Nd
10*	HPMA-TBA	20	Ethanol	-	160
11	HPMA-TBA	20	Ethanol	10	Nd

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 23, as follows:

In addition, the addition of particles of 50% Trisacryl® - 50% HEMA random polymers, at 2% cross-linking mass per volume (m/V), to this solution based on HPMA-TBA copolymer at 20% in ethanol (composition no. 11) improves the embolization capacity of the composition no. 10 not containing said particles.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 9, as follows:

1 ml of an injectable composition of HPMA-TBA at 10% mass per volume (m/v) in ethanol, containing 15% mass per volume (m/v) of particles of Trisacryl®/HEMA (50/50) crosslinked at 2% mass per volume (m/V), is taken up in a syringe.

Please delete all previous versions of the Abstract.

Page 34, after the last line, beginning at a new page, please insert the attached substitute Abstract.